THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) DTC has made a proposal to Government for rationalisation and revision of fares.

(b) No decision on the proposal has been taken. The losses suffered are as follows :—

(Rs. in crores)

	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (provisional April, 1988 to February, 1989).
1. Working loss . .	38.63	45.96	50.94
2. Depreciation . .	11.69	11.96	12.71
3. Interest . . .	11.94	20.96	32.30
4. Net loss . . .	62.26	78.88	95.95

(c) The financial performance of the DTC is periodically reviewed and reasons for losses analysed which reveal that the main reasons for the losses have been its low fare structure, coupled with rapidly rising cost of operations.

(d) and (e) Every private bus that runs under DTC is allowed to ply only when it has a vehicle fitness certificate issued by the concerned Transport Authority. As and when, the private bus is found by the checking squad as not adhering to the conditions of upkeep, owners of Private operators' buses are asked to rectify the faults failing which strict action is taken.

Opposition to the New Motor Vehicles Act

1848. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Association of State Road Transport Undertakings are against the new Motor Vehicles Act ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rail Link of tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh

1849. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a major part of the tribal regions of Madhya Pradesh is not linked by rail ;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to link the tribal belt of Madhya Pradesh by rail ;

(c) whether any such railway project for tribal belt of Madhya Pradesh is under consideration of Government ; and

(d) if so, what is the present status of such project ?

THE MINISTER OF STAE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (d) The existing rail lines in Madhya Pradesh serve some of the tribal areas through which they pass. Besides, the following new line projects are under progress in Madhya Pradesh, parts of which will also pass through tribal areas :

S. No.	Name of Project	Length (km)	% age progress upto March 1989
1.	Guna –Etawah	343	11.89
2.	Satna –Rewa	50	27.71
3.	Kota –Chittaurgarh –Nimach . . . . . (16 km in Madhya Pradesh)	222	85.00
4.	Godhra –Dahod –Indore & Dewas –Maksi . . . (216 Km in Madhya Pradesh)	316	(included in 89-90 Budget

Undertaking to Supreme Court regarding staff of Akbar Hotel

1850. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had given an undertaking to the Supreme Court that the entire ex-ITDC staff of Akbar Hotel would be absorbed in Ministries and ITDC hotels;

(b) whether 137 members of Ex-ITDC staff of Akbar hotel taken on the rolls of M.E.A. since 1986 are still being denied their due salaries and allowances and have not yet been absorbed as regular employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) During the course of hearing of the writ filed by the employees of Akbar Hotel in 1986 in the Supreme Court, a statement was made on behalf of ITDC and the Ministry of External Affairs that all the employees of the erstwhile Akbar Hotel had been offered alternative employment in the ITDC and the Ministry of External Affairs. The case was dismissed by the Supreme Court on 20-01-1988.

(b) Of the 137 employees, nine were taken back by the ITDC and the services of two employees were terminated by the Ministry of External Affairs on disciplinary grounds. The remaining employees are continuing on *ad-hoc* basis. They have been given their last pay drawn in ITDC including 5 D.A. instalments between 01-7-1986 to 01-07-1988. They have also been given bonus in 1987 and 1988 .

The question of creation of posts for regularisation of the employees is under process in the Ministry of External Affairs.

Japanese expertise for storage and retrieval of Cultural heritage

1851. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has sought Japanese expertise in storage and retrieval of cultural heritage material; and